



IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:
variable display meansdevices for variably displaying various symbols;
a lottery meansdevice for executing a lottery of a winning combination;
a stop control meansdevice for performing stop control of variable display;
a stop control selection meansdevice for selecting a kind of control of the
stop control meansdevice in reference to a result of the lottery;
a shielding meansdevice for shielding, the shielding meansdevice being
disposed in front of the variable display meansdevices; and
a shielding control meansdevice for performing, in accordance with
selection by the stop control selection meansdevice, switch control of the
shielding meansdevice between a state enabling a player to visually recognize
some of the symbols and another state disabling the player from visually
recognizing some of the symbols;
wherein the shielding control meansdevice performing, in accordance with
a kind of stopping operation by the player, switch control between a first shielding
state which is executed when the stopping operation matches the kind of the stop
control meansdevice, and a second shielding state which is executed when the
stopping operation does not match the kind of the stop control meansdevice.

14. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to Claim 13,
further comprising an effect display, which displays an effect image and is
disposed in front of the variable display meansdevices wherein the effect image
is displayed on the effect display after the second shielding state is executed.

15. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to Claim 13,
wherein the shielding meansdevice comprises an electronic shutter.

16. (New) A gaming machine comprising:
- variable display devices for variably displaying various symbols;
 - a lottery device for executing a lottery of a winning combination;
 - a stop control device for performing stop control of variable display;
 - a stop control selection device for selecting a kind of control of the stop control device in reference to a result of the lottery;
 - a shielding device for shielding, the shielding device being disposed in front of the variable display devices; and
 - a shielding control device for performing, in accordance with selection by the stop control selection device, switch control of the shielding device between a state enabling a player to visually recognize some of the symbols and another state disabling the player from visually recognizing some of the symbols.